

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given to the Official Action of January 26, 2005 and the above amendatory action has been taken to place the application into condition for allowance.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner considers claim 42 to be directed to an invention which is independent or distinct from the originally claimed invention and therefore has withdrawn this from consideration. Claim 42 has been cancelled and the rejection no longer applies.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 28 and 36 on formal grounds and suitable amendatory action has been taken to overcome the objections raised by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 6, 22, 23, 28, 36, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Focke U.S. Patent 6,546,698 in view of Focke U.S. Patent 5,336,040.

The Examiner has indicated the allowability of claims 2-5, 7-21, 24-27, 29-35, and 39-41 subject to their being rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter from claim 2 thereby placing claim 1 into condition for allowance. All of the remaining claims are dependent directly or indirectly from claim 1 and accordingly are deemed allowable therewith.

New claims 43-57 have been added to the application and are also deemed to be in condition for allowance.

In this regard, claim 43 incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1, 6 and 7. Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of the subject matter of claim 7, it is submitted that claim 43 is in condition for allowance. Claims 44 and 45 are dependent from claim 43 and are allowable therewith.

Claim 46 incorporates the subject matter from original claim 1 and 10. Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of the subject matter of claim 10, it is respectfully

submitted that claim 46 is in allowable condition along with its dependent claims 47 and 48.

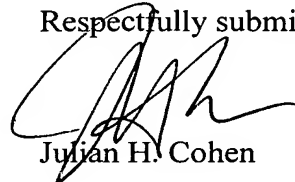
Claim 49 incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1 and 13. Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of the subject matter of claim 13, it is respectfully submitted that claim 49 is in condition for allowance along with dependent claims 50 and 51.

Claim 52 incorporates the subject matter from original claims 1 and 16. Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of the subject matter of claim 16, it is respectfully submitted that claim 52 is allowable along with its dependent claims 53-56.

Claim 57 incorporates the subject matter from original claims 1 and 21. Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of the subject matter of claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that claim 57 is in condition for allowance.

By reason of the above action and comments it is respectfully submitted that all claims in the application are now in allowable condition and favorable reconsideration and early dispatch of the Notice of Allowance would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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